

## Article - Health Occupations

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§11–101.

- (a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.
- (b) “Board” means the State Board of Examiners in Optometry.
- (c) “Diagnostically certified optometrist” means a licensed optometrist who is certified by the Board to administer topical ocular diagnostic pharmaceutical agents to the extent permitted under § 11–404 of this title.
- (d) “License” means, unless the context requires otherwise, a license issued by the Board to practice optometry.
- (e) “Licensed optometrist” means, unless the context requires otherwise, an optometrist who is licensed by the Board to practice optometry.
- (f) “Optometrist” means an individual who practices optometry.
- (g) (1) “Practice optometry” means:
  - (i) Subject to §§ 11–404 and 11–404.2 of this title, to use any means known in the science of optics or eye care, except surgery:
    - 1. To detect, diagnose, manage, and treat, subject to §§ 11–404 and 11–404.2 of this title, any optical or diseased condition in the human eye and the adnexa of the eye; or
    - 2. To prescribe eyeglasses, lenses, or contact lenses to correct any optical or visual condition in the human eye;
  - (ii) To give advice or direction on the fitness or adaptation of eyeglasses or lenses to any individual for the correction or relief of a condition for which eyeglasses or lenses are worn; or
  - (iii) To use or permit the use of any instrument, test card, test type, test eyeglasses, test lenses, or other device to aid in choosing eyeglasses or lenses for an individual to wear.
- (2) Subject to §§ 11–404 and 11–404.2 of this title, “practice optometry” includes:

- (i) The administration of pharmaceutical agents;
- (ii) The removal of superficial foreign bodies from the cornea and conjunctiva;
- (iii) The diagnosis, treatment, and management of open-angle glaucoma;
- (iv) The ordering of cultures and bloodwork testing; and
- (v) The ordering and performing of in-office, noninvasive, nonradiographic imaging.

(h) (1) “Surgery” means a procedure using any instruments, including lasers, scalpels, needles, cautery, a cryoprobe, or sutures in which human tissue is cut, burned, vaporized, removed, or otherwise permanently altered by any mechanical means, laser, ionizing radiation, ultrasound, or other means.

(2) “Surgery” does not include:

- (i) Preoperative and postoperative care provided in accordance with §§ 11-404 and 11-404.2 of this title;
- (ii) Nonsurgical light therapies used only for the treatment of meibomian gland disease and vision therapy but not for corneal collagen cross linking;
- (iii) Orthokeratology;
- (iv) A noninvasive procedure to remove a superficial foreign body in accordance with § 11-404.2(d) of this title;
- (v) Corneal scraping or conjunctival swabs for cultures in accordance with § 11-404.2(e) of this title;
- (vi) Epilating with forceps an eyelash from the eyelid, adnexa, or lacrimal system of a patient; or
- (vii) Noninvasive meibomian gland expression.

(i) “Therapeutically certified optometrist” means a licensed optometrist who is certified by the Board to practice optometry to the extent permitted under § 11-404.2 of this title.

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